

23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Resources and Development Committee recommends Sean McCabe to serve on the Navajo Housing Authority board of commissioners

TSE BONITO, N.M. – During a special meeting on Wednesday, the Resources and Development Committee considered Legislation No. 0150-17, confirming the appointment of Sean McCabe to serve on the Navajo Housing Authority board of commissioners to fill the position of a certified public accountant. The Resources and Development Committee serves as the oversight for NHA.

McCabe is of the Áshjihí (Salt People) clan and born for Táchii'nii (Red Running into the Water) clan. He is originally from the community of Iyanbito, New Mexico.

McCabe obtained his Bachelor of Arts in accounting from Fort Lewis College and is a certified public accountant within the states of Arizona and New Mexico. His professional experience includes serving as a managing member of McCabe CPA Group, LLC, and a former managing stakeholder of Anuskewicz and McCabe CPAs PC, chairman of the board of directors for Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise, and a member of American Institute for Certified Public Accountants Minority Initiative Committee.

RDC member Council Delegate Jonathan Perry (Becenti, Crownpoint, Huerfano, Lake Valley, Nageezi, Nahodishgish, Tse'ii'ahi, Whiterock), who sponsored the legislation, said that McCabe is the first applicant appointed by the president to be considered for confirmation.

"Initially, there were three board members that were going to be considered today, but two individuals withdrew their nominations based on personal reasons. McCabe has accepted the nomination and he is highly qualified for the position. McCabe has completed the interview process to be considered as a NHA board of commissioner," stated Delegate Perry.

According to the interview panel for the NHA board of commissioners, 31 applicants were interviewed and the qualified applicants were selected to fill the five board positions.

In April, the Council approved Legislation No. 0145-17, which would effectively replace the current eight NHA board of commission members. President Russell Begaye then signed the Council resolution into law on May 6.

"We need to fill the positions with qualified individuals. Hopefully, the new board members will work adjacently with the committee. Our Navajo people are in need of suitable homes," stated

RDC member Council Delegate Davis Filfred (Mexican Water, Aneth, Teecnospos, Tółikan, Red Mesa).

According to the legislation, the NHA board of commissioners shall consist of five members. All commissioners shall have post-high school education and employment experience in the areas of business operations, architecture, construction management, finance, accounting, or in specialized areas of construction and business. Additional criteria require at least three years of management or leadership experience in business or government.

"The board of commissioners needs to be filled immediately. We are losing time to address the housing needs of the Nation," stated RDC chair Council Delegate Alton Joe Shepherd (Jeddito, Cornfields, Ganado, Kin Dah Lichíí, Steamboat).

If McCabe's appointment is confirmed by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee, he will serve a term of four years on the board.

The Resources and Development Committee approved Legislation No. 0150-17 with a 4-0 vote. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee serves as the final authority for the bill.

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